

## Adoption Day

### Celebrate families and learn how to help kids

*November 21, 2005*

Tuesday is the third annual Michigan Adoption Day. That doesn't obligate people to scour the peninsulas for a homeless child, but it should serve to increase awareness of the adoption process and the tremendous appreciation due families who make this commitment.

More than 40 Michigan counties will mark the day with events to finalize adoptions, parties for adoptive families and informational open houses.

If you've ever wondered what's involved, Tuesday's the day to find out by calling the Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange at 800-589-6273 anytime, or going online to [www.mare.org](http://www.mare.org).

Gov. Jennifer Granholm has proclaimed November as adoption month in Michigan, and the state Supreme Court, as overseer of all Michigan courts, where adoptions are finalized, declared Tuesday Adoption Day.

"Adoptions," said Chief Justice Clifford Taylor, "are one of the few occasions when people are happy to come to court."

Justice Maura Corrigan was one of the instigators of Adoption Day, cosponsored by the Michigan Department of Human Services.

DHS oversees the state's foster-care system, which includes about 4,000 children eligible for adoption.

"Adoption Day is one of the most joyous days of the year with children and adults coming together to celebrate the choice of love and to become part of a forever family," said DHS Director Marianne Udow.

The need is great. So is the commitment that's required. That's what makes the reward so great, too.

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